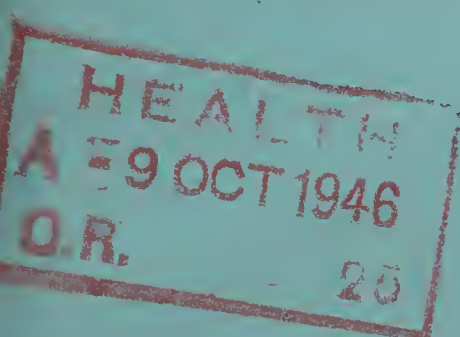


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BOROUGH OF REIGATE



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

T. H. BINGHAM, M.D., D.P.H.

TOGETHER WITH THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR,

G. JANES, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

1945

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1945

REDHILL:

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health (also Divisional School Medical Officer) :

THOMAS H. BINGHAM, M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers (part-time) :

LOVEDAY S. FARQUHARSON, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

FRANCES M. BOWLES-PRICE, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Obstetric Consultant (part-time) :

JOHN BEATTIE, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Dental Officer (part-time) :

BERNARD COOKE, L.D.S., F.R.I.P.H.H.

Public Analyst (part-time) :

EDWARD HINKS, M.B.E., B.Sc., F.I.C.

Deputy Public Analyst (part-time) :

D. D. MOIR, M.Sc., F.I.C.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

GILBERT JANES, Cert.R.S.I., Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Sanitary Inspectors :

WILLIAM HAWORTH, Cert.R.S.I., Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

CLEMENT S. T. DANCER, Cert.R.S.I., Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

ARTHUR J. STEWART.

Disinfecting Officer :

FREDERICK G. STEWART.

Assistant Rat Officer :

JOHN KEMPSHALL.

Superintendent Health Visitor and Child Protection Visitor (also Superintendent School Nurse) :

MABEL DALLARD, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitors' Certificate.

Health Visitors (also School Nurses) :

FRANCES PHILLIPS, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitors' Certificate.

LILIAN F. PROCKTOR, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitors' Certificate.

NORA E. HAINS, S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitors' Certificate.

LILLIE M. COWLEY, S.R.N., S.C.M. (until 9th March, 1945).

EURWEN THOMAS, S.R.N., Health Visitors' Certificate

(from 1st Sept., 1945).

Clerks :

MURIEL K. HARRADINE.

VERA VERRALL.

BETTY M. BARLOW.

BOROUGH OF REIGATE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1945.

*To the Chairmen and Members of the Public Health and Maternity
and Child Welfare Committees.*

LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1945, which is drawn up on the lines indicated by the Ministry of Health.

At the Minister's request, special reference is made to certain subjects of current interest with which the local health services are directly concerned. In other respects, the report now submitted is less comprehensive in scope than earlier issues in the same series, and is in general confined to a brief record of the work performed by the public health services of the Borough, and of important alterations, improvements and developments of these services, in the year under review.

I have again to record my sincere appreciation of the efficient and conscientious service rendered by my staff, the assistance and close co-operation of officials engaged in other departments of the Corporation and the support and consideration extended to me throughout the year by the Chairmen and Members of Committees.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. H. BINGHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

REIGATE.

12th August, 1946.

SECTION I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (Land and Inland Water)	.. ..	10,255 acres
Population, Census 1931 (enlarged Borough)	..	34,547
Registrar-General's estimate of resident civilian population, mid-year, 1945	.. ..	36,670
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1945 according to Rate Books	.. ..	10,500
Rateable Value (1945)	.. ..	£423,683
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	.. ..	£1,720

Chief Occupations of the Inhabitants.

The most recent official information concerning the numbers of males and females engaged in certain occupations is contained in the Industry Tables compiled from the returns of the 1931 Census.

Extracts from the Industry Tables have been included in recent reports and are not now reproduced, as the changes since the Census was taken, and more especially since the outbreak of war, render them of little value as a statement of the occupations followed by the inhabitants of the district.

TABLE I.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births :—

Legitimate	..	Males	252	Females	240	Total	492
Illegitimate	..	Males	46	Females	31	Total	77

Birth Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.5
Do. 1944	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.9
Do. for the five years 1940 to 1944	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.1

Still Births :—

Males	..	12	Females	4	Total	16
-------	----	----	---------	---	-------	----

Rate per 1,000 total births	..	..	..	..	..	27.3
Do. do. 1944	..	..	..	..	..	18.0

Deaths (nett) :—

Males	..	242	Females	255	Total	497
-------	----	-----	---------	-----	-------	-----

Do. 1944 :—

Males	..	239	Females	285	Total	524
-------	----	-----	---------	-----	-------	-----

Death Rate	..	..	..	..	..	13.5
Do. 1944	..	..	..	..	..	14.4
Do. for the five years 1940 to 1944	..	..	..	..	..	13.5

Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions 41.8

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :—

			<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births</i>
Puerperal Sepsis	..	..	1	1.70
Other Puerperal Causes	..	..	0	Nil.
Total	..	..	1	1.70

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	33.39
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	30.48
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	51.94

Deaths from :—

Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	95
Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	1
Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	0
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	..	2

TABLE II.

Birth-Rates, Civilian Death-Rates and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1945.

	Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population.		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE per 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION.								Rate per 1,000 Live Births.	
	Live Births	Still-Births	All Causes	Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fevers	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Small-pox	Measles	Deaths from Diar-rhoea and Enteritis (under two years).	Total deaths under one year
England and Wales	16.1	0.46	11.4	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.08	0.00	0.02	5.6	46
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	19.1	0.58	13.5	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.07	0.00	0.02	7.8	54
148 Smaller Towns (Resident Popu- lations 25,000—50,000 at 1931 Census)	19.2	0.53	12.3	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.07	0.00	0.02	4.5	43
London—Administrative County	15.7	0.40	13.8	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.07	0.00	0.01	7.6	53
Reigate . .	15.5	0.43	13.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02	3.5	33

Population.

The civilian population resident in the Borough at mid-year 1945, as estimated by the Registrar-General, was 36,670. This represents an increase of 310 on the corresponding figure for 1944, and is appreciably lower than the figure supplied by the local Registration Officer. The estimate is undoubtedly an understatement of the population; in consequence, the various rates for the year, which are calculated on the Registrar General's figure, indicate a higher morbidity and mortality than was, in fact, experienced.

Births.

Five hundred and sixty-nine live infants were born to women normally resident in the Borough. The birth rate for the year was, therefore, 15.5 per thousand of the estimated civilian population, as compared with 17.9 in 1944, 16.5 in 1943 and an average rate of 12.9 for the ten years 1933 to 1942. The lower birth rate was, however, accompanied by a sharp decline in mortality amongst new-born infants, without significant increase in the number of children registered as stillborn. Illegitimate births, of which there were 77, formed 13.5 per cent. of the total, as compared with 9.1 per cent. in 1944 and 11.6 per cent. in 1943.

Infant Mortality.

Nineteen infants (14 males and 5 females) died before reaching the age of one year, the majority failing to survive the first month. In twelve instances death was attributed to prematurity, congenital debility or malformation, in two to birth injuries, in two to acute gastro-enteritis, in two to haemorrhage of the brain and in one to pneumonia. The cause of death was verified in four cases at post-mortem examination. Sixteen of the deaths occurred in hospitals or private nursing homes; the remaining three were

investigated to ascertain if inattention at birth, lack of adequate facilities at confinement or other preventable deficiencies could be regarded as contributory causes.

The infant mortality rate for the year was 33 per thousand live births, which is the second lowest recorded in the Borough, and compares very favourably with that for England and Wales (46) and for towns comparable in size with Reigate (43). Deaths from prematurity continue to make a large contribution to the total and will, it is hoped, be reduced as a result of the increasing attention devoted to the care of premature infants.

Deaths.

The deaths assigned to the area include those of Borough residents who died elsewhere, but exclude those of temporary residents, which are transferred to other districts, and of non-civilians. The total number of deaths so assigned was 497, of which 242 were of males and 255 of females. The numbers of deaths of each sex in the various age groups were as follows :—

<i>Age group.</i>	<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
0-5 years ..	18	..	6	..	24
5-10 „ ..	4	..	—	..	4
10-15 „ ..	—	..	1	..	1
15-20 „ ..	—	..	1	..	1
20-30 „ ..	1	..	2	..	3
30-40 „ ..	8	..	8	..	16
40-50 „ ..	12	..	15	..	27
50-60 „ ..	33	..	22	..	55
60-70 „ ..	52	..	41	..	93
70-80 „ ..	63	..	71	..	134
80-90 „ ..	48	..	76	..	124
90 and upwards	3	..	12	..	15
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
	242		255		497
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

The " crude " or unadjusted death-rate for the year was 13.5 per thousand of the estimated resident population, as compared with 14.4 in 1944 and an average annual rate of 12.3 for the preceding ten years.

The " crude " rate is not a valid measure for comparison with the death-rate for England and Wales or for any local area until corrected or " adjusted " to make allowance for the adverse influence of unfavourable age and sex distribution on the mortality experienced in the area. The correction is made by the application of a Comparability Factor, which reduces the crude rate by roughly one-fifth. The " adjusted " death-rate for the Borough would, therefore, be approximately 10.8, which compares favourably with the rate for England and Wales and with the similarly adjusted rate for towns with a resident population of 25,000 to 50,000.

The numbers of deaths assigned to various causes are set out in Table III. The chief cause of death was disease of the heart and circulatory system, in many instances occurring as a terminal or degenerative condition in association with senility. To this cause were attributed 167 deaths, or roughly one-third of the total from all causes.

Deaths from cancer and malignant disease formed the second largest group, and accounted for roughly one-fifth of the total. The mortality rate for cancer was 2.59 per thousand population ; this is greatly in excess of any previously recorded in the Borough, due mainly to the increased mortality amongst females.

The numbers of deaths assigned to acute infectious disease, ulcerative conditions of the digestive tract and diseases of the kidneys were considerably below the average, though tuberculous and non-tuberculous affections of the respiratory organs made slightly more than their usual contribution to the death rate. The numbers of deaths from other specified causes correspond roughly with those previously recorded and do not indicate unusual or excessive mortality from any particular cause.

TABLE III.

Causes of Death in the Borough of Reigate during 1945.

				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	TOTAL.
1	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers
2	Cerebro-spinal Fever
3	Scarlet fever
4	Whooping cough
5	Diphtheria
6	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	..	13	1	14	
7	Other forms of tuberculosis	..	1	..	1	
8	Syphilitic diseases	..	2	..	2	
9	Influenza ..	..	1	..	1
10	Measles ..	..	1	..	1
11	Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	..	..	..	..
12	Acute infective encephalitis	..	..	..	..
13	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus..	3	..	3		
13a	Cancer of uterus	..	5	5		
14	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	..	8	11	19	
15	Cancer of breast	..	..	12	12
16	Cancer of all other sites	..	26	30	56	
17	Diabetes ..	..	2	1	3
18	Intracranial vascular lesions	..	19	35	54	
19	Heart disease	..	67	84	151	
20	Other diseases of circulatory system	..	7	9	16	
21	Bronchitis ..	..	14	7	21
22	Pneumonia ..	..	9	5	14
23	Other respiratory diseases	..	1	..	1	
24	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	1	2	3	
25	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	..	2	..	2	
26	Appendicitis	..	2	1	3	
27	Other digestive diseases	..	7	7	14	
28	Nephritis ..	..	6	3	9
29	Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	..	..	1	1
30	Other maternal causes	..	..	..	..
31	Premature birth	..	3	1	4	
32	Congenital malformation, birth injury and infantile diseases	..	8	4	12	
33	Suicide ..	..	2	2	4
34	Road traffic accidents	..	2	2	4	
35	Other violent causes	..	5	3	8	
36	All other causes	..	30	29	59	
TOTALS				242	255	497

SECTION II.

GENERAL PROVISION of HEALTH SERVICES for the AREA.

Staff.

Full particulars of the Public Health Officers of the Borough Council are given in the list incorporated at the beginning of this report, including in each case information as to their special diplomas and certificates of qualification.

On 1st April, 1945, the Borough Council ceased to be the local authority for elementary education. It was then agreed that the services of the medical, dental and nursing staff formerly engaged in the Council's school medical department should be made available, to an agreed extent and on approved conditions, to the Divisional Executive Committee established for the area under the Education Act, 1944.

Laboratory Facilities.

There has been no important alteration or extension of the laboratory services for the area, which are briefly as follows :—

Medical Practitioners may send specimens of clinical material (sputum, blood, etc.) either to the Pathological Department of the East Surrey Hospital or to the Counties Public Health Laboratories in London for bacteriological or other examination.

Samples of milk or foods for biological and bacteriological examination are sent to the Clinical Research Association, Limited, in London.

Samples of potable water are sent to the Counties Public Health Laboratories.

Samples of food and drugs for chemical examination are sent to Mr. E. Hinks, B.Sc., F.I.C., Public Analyst.

Nursing in the Home.

Under an agreement made with the Borough Council and at the request of the Medical Officer of Health, the staff of the Reigate and Redhill District Nursing Association undertake the home nursing of selected cases of pneumonia and of certain acute infectious ailments in young children. Assistance is limited to patients who are unfit for removal to hospital and who are unable to make private arrangements for nursing attention.

Ambulance Facilities.

The ambulance service for cases of infectious disease, illness and accident is adequate for the needs of the district. Ambulance transport for infectious cases is provided by the Reigate Joint Hospital Board. Non-infectious and accident cases are conveyed either by the ambulance attached to the Redhill County Hospital or by one of the ambulance vehicles provided and maintained by the St. John Ambulance Brigade. Car transport for certain cases is available through the local Division of the British Red Cross Society.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The only important extensions of clinic services were the holding of additional sessions, as and when required, for artificial immunisation against diphtheria and the institution of a weekly infant welfare session in the Earlswood district. The erection of suitable clinic buildings at Earlswood and Merstham was approved in principle, and included in the Council's programme of post-war development.

Hospitals : Public and Voluntary.

The Borough Council has made arrangements for the admission of patients to the Reigate Joint Isolation Hospital and to the East Surrey Hospital. Persons suffering from certain infectious diseases are admitted to the former, and abnormal or complicated maternity cases are admitted to the latter on the recommendation of the Borough Obstetric Consultant. There is no development or change to record in the services provided by these hospitals during the year.

Institutional Provision for Mothers and Children.

The action taken by the Council in connection with the provision of hostel accommodation for unmarried mothers and their infants is described in a later section of this report.

Health Visitors.

The five health visitors employed by the Borough Council give half-time service to the maternity and child welfare department and, by arrangement with the Surrey County Council, half time to school medical duties. The health visiting staff was depleted for a period of six months, owing to unavoidable delay and difficulty in filling a vacancy.

Supply of Insulin.

Arrangements have been made, with the approval of the Ministry of Health, for the supply of insulin, free of cost or at a reduced price, to diabetic persons for whom provision has not already been made under the National Health Insurance and Poor Law Acts. The patient's contribution to the cost is assessed on the income scale adopted for other public health and maternity and child welfare purposes.

Four persons were supplied with insulin under these arrangements during the year.

SECTION III.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

There was no important extension of the public water supply during the year.

With the exception of 14 houses which depend for their water supply on two private wells, all dwellings in the Borough have a continuous and direct supply from the East Surrey Water Company. The water is derived from deep borings in the chalk and is softened, chlorinated and de-chlorinated before distribution to consumers.

The supply was adequate in quantity throughout the year, the average daily consumption per head of population being about 30 gallons. The quality of the water, as revealed by chemical and bacteriological examination at regular intervals, was invariably reported to be satisfactory.

Samples of the water before and after treatment are submitted monthly for bacteriological examination, under private arrangements made by the East Surrey Water Company. In addition, samples of the treated water are examined chemically and bacteriologically about 40 times a year, under a rota system arranged by the Medical Officers of Health of the districts supplied by the Company ; samples are taken in each district at stated times, and the analyst's reports are available for the use of the other districts concerned. The following report is typical of those received during the year :—

Chemical Results in Parts per 100,000.

Appearance	..	..	Bright—very slight film deposit of mineral debris—chalk. Turbidity : Less than five parts per million, Silica scale					
Colour	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Normal
Odour	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Reaction pH	..	..	..	..	..	Alkaline : 8.3		
Free carbonic acid		..	..	..	..	..	..	Absent
Electric conductivity at 20 deg. C.	..				..	..	..	225
Total solids, dried at 180 deg. C.				..	..	..	..	15.0
Chlorine in Chlorides	..		..	..	..	..	..	2.0
Alkalinity as calcium carbonate				..	..	..	..	4.0
Hardness : Total		..	..	..	..	..	..	8.0
Temporary			..	..	..	..	..	2.0
Permanent			..	..	..	..	..	6.0
Nitrogen in nitrates	..		..	..	..	..	..	0.58
Nitrogen in nitrites	..		..	..	..	..	..	Absent
Free ammonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.0040
Ammoniacal nitrogen			..	..	..	..	..	Absent
Albuminoid ammonia			..	..	..	..	..	0.0000
Albuminoid nitrogen	..		..	..	..	..	..	Absent
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27 deg.C.	..				..	..	..	0.010
Metals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Absent
“ Free chlorine reaction ”			..	..	..	0.3 part per million		

Bacteriological Results.

	1 day at	2 days at	3 days at
Number of “ Bacteria ” growing	37 deg. C.	37 deg. C.	20 deg.
on Agar per c.c. or ml. in	0	1	1
Presumptive coliform reaction	Absent 100 c.c.
Bact. coli	Absent 100 c.c.
Cl. welchii reaction	Absent 100 c.c.

Report.

“ This sample is reasonably clear and bright in appearance, containing only a very slight deposit of chalk particles. The water is very faintly alkaline in reaction, soft in character, and contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution. It is free from iron and other metals and is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.”

A sample of water taken from a private well, from which twelve houses derive their supply, was reported to be of satisfactory organic and bacterial purity. The water was faintly acid in reaction and, although not plumbo-solvent, it was thought advisable to warn the owner to avoid the use of lead in connection with the supply.

Drainage and Sewerage : Rivers and Streams : Closet Accommodation.

There is nothing of special importance to report under any of these headings.

Public Cleansing.

There were numerous complaints of delay in the collection of house refuse from private dwellings in the Borough. These complaints were referred to Mr. A. E. Clouds, the Cleansing Superintendent, who stated that, owing to reduction in staff, it was not possible to collect house refuse in any area of the Borough more frequently than once in five to six weeks, though kitchen waste was collected from the street bins twice weekly, on the average.

Towards the end of the year, however, the service was very greatly improved in consequence of temporary re-allocation of the manual labour employed by the Council and the return to the Cleansing Department of former employees who had been released from military service. The interval between collections was then reduced to a maximum of three weeks in all areas of the Borough ; further reduction has since been effected.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

A classified statement of the number of premises visited, the defects or nuisances discovered, and the action and result of action taken in regard to these will be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Shops.

Inspections for the purposes of the Shops Act, 1934, were continued during the year, but on a reduced scale owing to war conditions.

Camping Sites.

No application for a licence under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, was received during the year.

One family of four persons, who were found to be living in a caravan on an unlicensed site, were re-housed by the Council in requisitioned property.

Smoke Abatement.

No complaint of smoke nuisance was received.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

The only swimming baths open to the public were the two covered baths owned by the Corporation. Both are equipped with plant for continuous filtration and chlorination.

Water taken from the Redhill bath at the height of the bathing season was reported to be of satisfactory organic and bacterial purity and suitable for swimming bath purposes.

The reports of samples of water from the Reigate bath were less favourable, and indicated that the chemical and bacterial quality of the water fell somewhat below the standard usually required. Similar results were obtained on subsequent analyses. It was therefore decided, in consultation with the Baths Superintendent, to empty the pool and to recommend the installation of a new chlorinator and, in due time, the provision of additional filtrating plant.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

The disinfestation of verminous premises was carried out by the Disinfecting Officer, under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. Particulars of Council and other houses found to be infested and dealt with during the year are set out in a later section of this report.

SECTION IV.

HOUSING.

The statistical particulars relating to housing in the area are set out below.

The systematic inspection of houses under the Housing Consolidated Regulations was suspended at the outbreak of war, due partly to difficulties in obtaining labour and material for housing repairs, but mainly owing to the staff being engaged on more urgent work in connection with civil defence, billeting, etc.

The number of dwelling houses inspected during the year was 562, including 214 houses which were inspected following application from the owners for licences to carry out essential repair work.

Informal notices were served on the owners of 156 houses which were found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. One hundred and fifty defective dwelling-houses were rendered fit before the end of the year in consequence of informal action.

The Council gave further consideration to the action to be taken in respect of three dwelling-houses which had been reported in 1944 to be unfit for human habitation and incapable of being rendered so fit at a reasonable expense. The Council accepted undertakings by the owners that, if the tenants were re-housed, the dwellings would not thereafter be used for human habitation.

The number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year was considerably greater than in the past. Most of these cases were discovered in the investigation of what appeared to be the most urgent applications for housing accommodation. The overcrowding was relieved in 13 cases by re-housing the tenants in requisitioned property or in the few temporary bungalows which became available toward the end of the year.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	(a)	562
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	(b)	1427
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	(a)	12
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	(b)	22
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation		Nil
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ..		156

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	150
---	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :			
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs			3
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—			
	(a)	By owners		Nil
	(b)	By local authority in default of owners ..		Nil

(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	7
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	6
(b)	By local authority in default of owners ..	—
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV. Overcrowding.

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	21
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	35
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	162
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	26
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	13
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases ..	83
(d)		Number of dwelling-houses which again became overcrowded after the local authority had taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil

SECTION V.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Particulars of the number of persons registered as cow-keepers, dairymen and retail purveyors of milk and of alterations made in the Registers during the year are set out in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Tuberculin Tested milk is produced at three farms in the Borough and Accredited milk at 10. Samples of milk were taken at these farms at frequent intervals by officers of the County Council and, with two exceptions, were reported to be satisfactory.

Veterinary Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture reported the action taken by them under the Tuberculosis Order of 1938 in relation to eight cows in the Borough.

The procedure followed in the sampling of milk is similar to that described in previous reports, except that in the latter half of the year the practice of submitting samples of undesignated raw milk to the methylene blue and coliform tests was discontinued, in order to avoid overlapping the extensive sampling which is now being carried out by other authorities under the National Milk Testing Scheme. Raw milk is now only examined biologically for the presence of tubercle bacilli. Samples of pasteurised milk were submitted to the phosphatase and methylene blue tests in conformity with the Heat-Treated Milk (Prescribed Tests) Order, 1944. One hundred and three samples (including 29 of pasteurised milk) were submitted to bacteriological examination, with the results set out in Table IV.

It is interesting to note that the 74 samples examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli all gave a negative result.

TABLE IV.

RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

1. METHYLENE BLUE REDUCTION TEST, ETC.

(a) Untreated Milk.

No. of Samples	Methylene Blue Test		Coliform Test		Accredited Standard		T.T. Standard
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	No.	%	No.
Ordinary : 34	24	10	24	10	24	70.6	—
T.T. : 5	5	—	5	—	—	—	5

(b) Pasteurised Milk.

No. of Samples.	Tests required by Heat-Treated Milk (Prescribed Tests) Order, 1944.			
	Methylene Blue		Phosphatase.	
	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
29	27	2	25	4

2. BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

No. of Samples.	Tubercle Bacilli +	% Tubercle Bacilli +
74	Nil	0.00

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938.

Licences, as under, for the sale of designated milk were granted to four retailers in the area :—

Tuberculin Tested	..	..	..	..	4
Tuberculin Tested—bottling licence	..	..	..	..	1
„ „ (Supplementary)	..	..	..	..	1
Pasteuriser's licence	..	..	..	..	1
Pasteurised (Supplementary)	..	..	..	..	1

Meat and Other Foods.

The action taken under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, is described in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, which also includes an account of unsound food destroyed and particulars of inspections of premises where food is prepared.

Adulteration, etc.

No special action was necessary under the Artificial Cream Act, 1929, the Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927, nor under the Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927.

All articles submitted to the Analyst were examined for the presence of preservatives in accordance with the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1939, but no infringement of the Regulations was reported.

The action taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, is described in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

Samples for chemical analysis are sent to the Council's Analyst, Mr. E. Hinks, B.Sc., F.I.C., and samples of milk for bacteriological examination to the Clinical Research Association, Limited. Bacteriological examination of other kinds of food was not called for during the year.

Shellfish (Molluscan).

There are no shellfish beds or layings in the district. The shellfish on sale locally are obtained from the London Markets, so that no information is available as to the layings from which the shellfish are derived.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations, 1934, nor under the Public Health (Cleansing of Shellfish) Act, 1932.

SECTION VI.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Provision of Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

The arrangements made for the isolation in hospital of the infectious sick have not been altered and are fully described in recent reports.

For several years it has been the practice to encourage the home isolation of certain infections in which, having due regard

to the facilities available, the occupations followed by members of the household and other relevant circumstances, effective precautions can be taken. In view of existing housing conditions, the acute shortage of nursing and domestic staff and the segregation of many children in hostels and residential institutions, home isolation has become increasingly difficult, and a proportionately greater number of infectious cases have been removed to hospital. For the same reasons, many cases of minor infectious illness, such as chicken-pox and german measles, which would normally be treated in their own homes, have also been recommended for admission to hospital. In spite of the demands thus made on the isolation hospital accommodation available, it was not found necessary to operate the scheme for mutual assistance already agreed with neighbouring isolation hospital authorities.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

The action taken on receipt of a notification that a person is suffering from an infectious disease is fully described in previous reports.

The exclusion from school of infected persons and contacts is carried out in accordance with the suggestions contained in the joint Memorandum issued in 1927 by the Ministry of Health and Board of Education, and amended in August, 1942.

Table V shows the number of the various notifiable infectious diseases (other than tuberculosis) recorded in the area during the 52 weeks ended 29th December, 1945, classified according to the age of the patient, together with the numbers of cases removed to hospital, and the total deaths from each disease. Comparative statistics are given in Table VI. The prevalence of the various diseases is reviewed below.

Small-pox.

No case of small-pox was notified in the Borough during the year.

It was reported, however, that seven persons who had recently arrived in the Borough had been in contact with definite or suspected cases of the disease, either in this country or abroad. All were kept under surveillance for the prescribed period.

The Medical Officer of Health did not perform any primary vaccination or re-vaccination under the Public Health (Small-pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

TABLE V.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1945.

Disease	Cases notified in Age Periods											Totals	Total cases removed to hospital	Total Deaths.
	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65			
Scarlet Fever ..	-	2	1	5	1	30	18	5	4	5	2	74	67	-
Diphtheria ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	4	4	-
Acute Infective Encephalitis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	1	-	9	9	-
Pneumonia ..	2	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	7	21	5	14
Ophthalmia Neon- atorum ...	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-
Dysentery ..	-	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	-	-	12	9	-
Whooping Cough ..	7	4	2	4	1	4	-	-	-	1	-	23	1	-
Measles ..	16	47	71	62	65	248	65	17	9	1	2	603	12	1
Erysipelas ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	4	1	-
Totals ..	29	54	76	72	69	285	89	26	23	11	12	754	112	15
TOTALS 1944 ..	11	18	19	27	25	97	21	8	24	7	18	281	92	27

TABLE VI.

CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1945.

	RATES PER 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION.									RATES PER 1000 TOTAL (i.e. Live and Still) BIRTHS.
	Typhoid Fever.	Para- typhoid Fever.	Cerebro- Spinal Fever.	Scarlet Fever.	Whoop- ing Cough.	Diph- theria.	Ery- sipelas.	Measles.	Pneu- monia.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
England and Wales	0.01	0.01	0.05	1.89	1.64	0.46	0.25	11.67	0.87	9.93
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ..	0.01	0.00	0.05	2.02	1.65	0.52	0.28	10.98	1.03	12.65
148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000—50,000 at 1931 Census)	0.01	0.01	0.05	2.03	1.47	0.56	0.24	11.19	0.72	8.81
London Administrative County	0.01	0.00	0.06	1.57	1.25	0.31	0.31	9.03	0.78	15.87
Reigate	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.01	0.62	0.10	0.10	16.44	0.57	15.38

Scarlet Fever.

Cases of scarlet fever were slightly more numerous than in recent years, a total of 74 cases being notified as compared with an annual average of 67 in the ten years 1935 to 1944. The cases were widely distributed as regards locality and season and, contrary to usual experience, exhibited relatively higher prevalence amongst persons over school age.

Other noteworthy features were the unusually low incidence in residential institutions and the frequency with which multiple cases were reported almost simultaneously from the same households. The investigation of notified cases in many instances led to the discovery of further cases which had not been recognised, or elicited a history of recent illness suggestive of scarlet fever in another member of the family. The symptoms of the prevailing type of the disease are often ill-defined and transient, though abortive cases of this nature are no less infectious to others. Such cases add very greatly to the difficulties in the application of preventive measures.

Home isolation was permitted in seven cases, the remainder being removed to the Reigate Joint Hospital. In one instance it was necessary to obtain a Magistrate's Order for the compulsory removal to hospital of a patient who could not be satisfactorily isolated at home. Six suspected cases of scarlet fever were admitted to hospital for isolation, but were subsequently reported not to be suffering from scarlatinal infection. Three definite cases of the disease occurred in a household to which a patient had recently been discharged from the Reigate Joint Hospital; in several other instances there was well-founded suspicion that infection had been contracted from convalescent hospital patients.

Diphtheria.

The incidence of diphtheria continued to be unusually low. Four cases were notified and were successfully treated in the Reigate Joint Hospital. Six carriers of diphtheria organisms, though not actually suffering from the disease, were also isolated in hospital as a precautionary measure.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin.

The arrangements for the supply of anti-diphtheritic serum have not been altered and are fully described in previous reports. No request for serum was received during the year.

Schick Testing and Artificial Immunisation against Diphtheria.

The work carried out at the Council's Clinics during the year is summarised as follows :—

Number of persons completely immunised :—

Pre-school children	..	..	..	346
School children	..	..	..	47
Others	..	..	..	3
Total				396

Number of persons partially immunised :—

Pre-school children	..	..	..	95
School children	..	..	..	59
Others	..	..	..	1
Total				155

Total number of inoculations given 1,410

Prophylactic used—Toxoid Anti-toxin Floccules.

Primary and posterior Schick testing was practically suspended during the year, in order that priority might be given to new applicants for immunisation. In accordance with modern practice, infants who had previously been immunised were encouraged to attend for reinforcing doses of diphtheria prophylactic before entering school at the age of five years. This is an extremely valuable procedure, which is designed to ensure the maximum degree of immunity at a period when susceptibility and the risk of exposure to infection are likely to be greatest.

The Health Visitors intensified their efforts to secure the artificial immunisation against diphtheria of children who had attained the age of 12 months. It is especially noteworthy, therefore, that the majority of cases treated during the year were in the younger age groups. The importance of early immunisation in the prevention of diphtheria has been repeatedly demonstrated, and no doubt influenced the decision of the Minister of Health to transfer all functions in connection with immunisation to welfare authorities, as from 1st January, 1946.

Acute Infective Encephalitis.

A patient admitted to the East Surrey Hospital was later reported to be suffering from acute infective encephalitis. All necessary action was taken with regard to home contacts, none of whom contracted the disease.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

The case rate for puerperal pyrexia was considerably lower than in the past. Of the nine notifications, all of which were received from the Redhill County Hospital, only one related to a woman normally resident in the Borough.

Pneumonia.

There was marked reduction in the prevalence of pneumonia, principally in consequence of the low incidence of influenza, with which pneumonia is not infrequently associated. The seasonal preference and age group distribution of the disease were in accordance with those usually observed. Nine notified cases were treated in hospitals or nursing homes and twelve in their own homes. The latter were visited by the Health Visitors, who reported that adequate facilities for isolation and treatment were available in every case and that the provision of skilled nursing assistance, for which arrangements have been made by the Borough Council, did not appear to be necessary. In several instances, trained nurses were already in attendance.

Fourteen deaths were attributed to pneumonia. Although this does not represent an unduly high mortality from this cause, it would appear to be excessive in relation to the number of cases notified. This is not entirely explained by failure of medical practitioners to notify cases on which they were in attendance, though several cases did undoubtedly escape notification. It is noteworthy, however, that only two deaths occurred among the notified cases; this probably represents the true mortality rate for the disease, having regard to the efficacy of modern methods of treatment. On analysis of the returns of death it would appear that the undue proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia is the result of faulty assignment by the Registrar-General's department. For example, pneumonia occurring as a secondary or terminal condition, and not therefore notifiable under the Infectious Diseases Regulations, has in many instances been selected as the primary cause of death and assigned to that heading.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Three babies born in the Redhill County Hospital were notified to be suffering from purulent discharge from the eyes a few days after birth. All recovered without permanent injury to the eyes or impairment of vision.

Dysentery.

In the early part of the year there was a small outbreak of bacillary dysentery, chiefly affecting persons in the younger age-groups. In most cases the symptoms were mild and of short duration, and the diagnosis was based on bacteriological evidence. There is reason to believe that the infection was much more widespread than the number of notified cases would suggest. Nine patients were treated in the East Surrey Hospital, to which several had been admitted for the treatment of other conditions.

Whooping Cough.

As judged by the number of cases notified, whooping cough was not unduly prevalent during the year. It is probable, however, that many mild cases of the disease did not receive medical attention, and so escaped formal notification.

One notified case and four non-notified cases were admitted to the Reigate Joint Hospital from homes or institutions in which adequate isolation could not be enforced. Home treated cases were investigated by the health visiting staff, who gave advice with regard to isolation and the precautions to be observed to limit spread of infection. No mortality was ascribed to whooping cough.

Measles.

This was the most prevalent and troublesome of the commoner acute infections, and occurred in the form of a widespread outbreak in the early part of the year. Maximum prevalence was observed in the months of April and May, after which the outbreak subsided abruptly, only one case being reported in the second half of the year. Children attending infants' departments, more particularly at St. John's, St. Matthew's and St. Luke's Schools, were chiefly affected, though an unusually large number of cases occurred in private schools and amongst the inmates of residential institutions. Twelve notified cases were admitted to the Reigate Joint Hospital and the remainder were kept under the supervision of the Health Visitors.

Prophylactic serum was not extensively used for the prevention or attenuation of measles. Three medical practitioners were supplied with serum for the total or partial immunisation of seven susceptible contacts, and later reported that the course of the disease in every instance had been extremely mild and free from complications. Prevention was not achieved in one instance in which it was intended, probably owing to the lateness of administration of serum.

The one death ascribed to measles was of a young child in whom the disease was complicated by hæmorrhage of the brain. This represents a mortality rate of 0.02 per thousand, which coincides with that for England and Wales.

Erysipelas.

One case of erysipelas was notified from the Redhill County Hospital and three from private dwellings, where they remained under treatment ; all recovered satisfactorily.

Tuberculosis.

Twenty-seven new cases of tuberculosis of the lungs and fifteen of tuberculosis of other organs were reported during the year. Thirty-eight were cases notified for the first time, and four became known through the Registrar's returns of deaths.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table VII, together with an analysis of the deaths in the area from this disease during the same period.

There was a welcome decline in the prevalence of tuberculosis of the respiratory organs. The case rate for this form of the disease was 0.73 per thousand population, which is very much lower than any recently recorded. The reduction was fairly evenly shared by both sexes and was especially marked amongst persons between the ages of 15 and 45 years. The incidence of non-respiratory tuberculosis, however, was somewhat higher than in recent years and approximates to the annual average for the past 20 years. Many of these cases are infected from bovine sources, which tends to explain the higher frequency amongst persons in the younger age groups, in which untreated milk is most likely to be the vehicle of infection. The various factors concerned in the causation and dissemination of tuberculosis are discussed in a previous report and are still operative, though, in some instances, to a lesser extent than formerly.

The mortality from respiratory tuberculosis, though twice as great as in 1944, was not appreciably above the average for the preceding ten years. It is improbable, however, that mortality from this cause will fully reflect the value of early diagnosis and the efficacy of modern methods of treatment until ample sanatorium accommodation is available for cases of the disease in its earliest stages, when treatment is most likely to lead to complete recovery.

TABLE VII.

New Cases of Tuberculosis, and all Deaths from the Disease in the Area during 1945, classified according to Age, Sex and Type of Disease.

<i>Age Periods</i>		NEW CASES				DEATHS			
		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years	...	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—
5-15 "	...	—	—	5	2	—	—	—	—
15-25 "	...	2	3	—	2	1	1	—	—
25-35 "	...	2	4	—	4	—	—	—	—
35-45 "	...	3	3	—	—	5	—	—	—
45-55 "	...	3	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
55-65 "	...	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 & upwards	...	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	..	15	12	6	9	13	1	1	—
TOTALS (1944)	..	29	21	5	4	3	4	1	2

A register is kept of the names, addresses and other particulars relating to known cases of tuberculosis. At the end of the year there remained on the Register the names of 210 persons, of whom 149 (75 males, 74 females), were suffering from respiratory tuberculosis, and 61 (34 males, 27 females), from tuberculosis of other organs.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

Many tuberculous persons and their families have been greatly assisted by the voluntary Tuberculosis Care Committee, which works in close association with local tuberculosis dispensaries. The assistance granted during the year included the supply of extra nourishment, fuel, bedding, clothing, sick-room requisites, etc., and the payment of fares, pocket money and other incidental expenses which could not be met from official sources. In addition, several convalescent patients were enabled to obtain suitable employment, and claims were prepared on their behalf for submission to other voluntary agencies from which they were entitled to receive financial help. In many other directions the activities of the Committee have been the means of relieving the necessities and anxieties of tuberculous persons and their dependants. The importance and usefulness of the Committee have been greatly extended by the admission to its membership of a Care Almoner appointed by the Surrey County Council.

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

From the information available it would not appear that non-notifiable infectious and contagious diseases were unusually prevalent during the year. Comparatively few of the commoner infections, such as chicken-pox, mumps and german measles, were reported, while influenza exhibited much lower incidence and mortality than any previously observed. Hospital isolation was provided for four cases of chicken-pox and one of mumps that could not be satisfactorily isolated elsewhere.

There were no reports of illness thought to be attributable to the ingestion of impure or unsound food. In the early part of the year, however, there was an extensive outbreak of infective gastro-enteritis with high mortality amongst new-born infants at

a local nursing home. All possible arrangements were made for the segregation and isolation of infants who were affected and, as a further precaution, the home was temporarily closed to new admissions. Later in the year, four cases of infective gastro-enteritis were admitted to the Reigate Joint Hospital from a residential institution in the area.

Disinfection.

There are facilities at the Disinfecting Station for the sterilisation of articles that have been exposed to infection, and for the cleansing of verminous persons and their belongings. Provision has recently been made for the treatment by formalin vapour of books and other articles which are unsuitable for disinfection by super-heated steam. The work undertaken at the Disinfecting Station during the year is summarised in a later section of this report.

Bacteriological Work.

The bacteriological examination of specimens for medical practitioners in connection with infectious disease is carried out by the Pathologist at the East Surrey Hospital. Specimens may also be sent to the Counties Public Health Laboratories in London.

The following specimens were examined during the year with the results indicated :—

A. SWABS EXAMINED FOR THE PRESENCE OF :—

(a) *Diphtheria bacillus* :—

(i) Swabs from throat :—

	Result		
	Positive	Negative	Total
From suspected cases of diphtheria	6	113	119
From contacts of diphtheria ..	1	12	13

(ii) Swabs from nose :—

From suspected cases of diphtheria	—	16	16
From contacts of diphtheria ..	—	6	6

(iii) Swabs from ear :—

From suspected cases of diphtheria	1	2	3
------------------------------------	---	---	---

(iv) Swabs from mouth :—

From suspected case of diphtheria ..	—	1	1
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(b) *Other Pathogenic Organisms* :—

(i) Swabs from throat	73	61	134
(ii) Swabs from nose	1	4	5
(iii) Swab from ear	—	1	1
(iv) Swab from vagina	—	1	1
(v) Swabs from mouth	4	—	4

B. SPUTUM EXAMINED FOR THE PRESENCE OF :—

The Tubercle Bacillus :—

(i) From suspected cases	3	17	20
--------------------------	----	----	---	----	----

C. FÆCES EXAMINED FOR THE PRESENCE OF :—

(a) B. Dysenteriae (Sonne)	..	..	1	7	8
(b) B. Paratyphosus	..	..	—	3	3

UNCLEANLINESS.

Pediculosis.

The measures adopted locally to combat infestation by lice are fully described in my Annual Report for 1944, and were consistently maintained throughout the year. The success attending these measures is reflected in the greatly reduced incidence of uncleanness and verminous infestation. Not a single instance of infestation was recorded in an infant under school age, while the general standard of cleanliness amongst school children was the highest observed for several years. Very few cases were detected amongst adults who were inspected in the course of following-up infected school children, and only three were of such degree as to require cleansing under the arrangements made for that purpose by the Borough Council. Several members of the Women's Land Army and of other Women's Services stationed in the area sought the assistance of the Health Visitors in dealing with verminous conditions of the hair, and were supplied with chemical insecticides and detailed directions for using them. Assistance of this nature was less frequently required than in the past.

Scabies.

Fewer cases of scabies were encountered than in the years following the outbreak of war. A total of 396 definite and suspected cases of the disease were referred to the Public Health Department for treatment, as compared with 521 cases in 1944 and 471 in 1943. Adults were chiefly affected, the numbers of cases amongst school children and those under school age being comparatively small.

The majority of cases and home contacts were treated at the Health Centre or at the Public Baths in Redhill, though a few cases, who were unable to attend either of these centres, were dealt with in their own homes by the Health Visitors. The cleansing

of cases at the Public Baths was undertaken mainly by members of local detachments of the British Red Cross Society, who were, unfortunately, obliged to discontinue their assistance in this connection towards the end of the year. Arrangements were accordingly made for the cleansing at the Redhill County Hospital of 42 cases of scabies that could not conveniently be treated elsewhere.

On the whole, the results of treatment were very satisfactory, the majority of cases being pronounced free from infection within 24 hours of the institution of treatment. Four instances of recurrence were reported, but these were subsequently traced to re-infection from known sources. Little difficulty was experienced in securing the attendance of persons for treatment, and it was rarely necessary, therefore, to threaten action under the Scabies Order, 1941.

SECTION VII.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The most noteworthy developments of the maternity and child welfare services of the area were the provision of a weekly infant welfare session in the Earlswood district and extension of the home help scheme to include the supply of domestic assistance to households where, because of sickness, infirmity or for similar reason, such assistance is urgently necessary and unobtainable from other sources.

When the Civil Defence services were disbanded, the Health Centre at Shaw's Corner ceased to be used as a First Aid Post. It was then possible to resume many of the clinic services which had been in abeyance during the war because of Civil Defence activities. The greater part of the building has now been restored to normal peace-time uses, though the perambulator shelter is still obstructed by the unsightly additions made during the war.

The attendances at the various clinics during the year are briefly summarised in the Tables that follow.

TABLE VIII.

PARTICULARS OF ATTENDANCES AT ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS DURING THE YEAR 1945.

			<i>Health Centre.</i>	<i>South Park.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Ante-Natal.					
Number of sessions held	..	..	41	11	52
Number of Attendances :—					
(a) Primary	..	..	63	16	79
(b) Subsequent	..	..	121	21	142
Average attendance per session	..	..	4	3	4
Individual patients attending	..	..	68	23	91
Post-Natal.					
Number of sessions held	..	..	7	3	10
Number of Attendances :—					
(a) Primary	..	..	10	4	14
(b) Subsequent	..	..	1	—	1
Individual patients attending	..	..	10	4	14
Birth Control.					
Number of sessions held	..	..	13	—	13
Total attendances :—					
(a) Primary	..	..	22	—	22
(b) Subsequent	..	..	26	—	26
Individual patients attending	..	..	32	—	32
Number of patients not eligible for assistance	..	..	4	—	4

Attendances at the ante-natal and post-natal clinics have fallen somewhat in recent years. This is largely due to the increasing demand for admission to hospitals and nursing homes, at which arrangements are made for ante-natal supervision and post-natal examination. Many expectant mothers who would prefer to be confined in their own homes are unable, in present circumstances, to make the necessary arrangements, mainly because of unsatisfactory housing conditions and difficulty in obtaining the domestic and nursing assistance they require. In this connection, the operation of the home help scheme has tended to encourage domiciliary confinement in a limited number of cases. It would be advisable, however, to reduce the number of ante-natal and post-natal sessions until there is an appreciable increase in the number of patients seeking attention. This would tend to effect economy in the use of medical and nursing staff and would not impair the efficiency of the service.

The figures in the foregoing Table represent a marked increase in the number of patients attending for advice on scientific methods of contraception. Many of these cases are referred by the Tuberculosis Officer and by private medical practitioners on the grounds that further pregnancy is strongly contra-indicated for medical reasons. Although this branch of the work might appear to conflict with the primary purpose of the maternity and child welfare service, it will not be disputed that it would be inhuman and detrimental to the interests of her family if steps were not taken to prevent conception by a woman whose life or health would, in consequence, be seriously endangered.

Domiciliary Supervision.

Expectant mothers were supervised in their homes by the Health Visitors, who made a total of 357 visits to 264 expectant mothers, including 276 visits to 212 patients not in attendance at the Council's Ante-natal Clinics. Most of the latter came to notice through the co-operation of the medical staff of the Redhill County Hospital.

Obstetric Consultant.

Two cases of obstetrical emergency occurring in private practice were examined by the Borough Obstetric Consultant, at the request of the medical practitioners in attendance. Both cases were successfully treated in the East Surrey Hospital, to which they were admitted in accordance with the arrangements made by the Borough Council.

Midwifery and Nursing Provision.

The Borough Council paid the agreed contribution to the Reigate and Redhill District Nursing Association in respect of 47 midwifery cases and 74 maternity nursing cases. The staff of this Association did not undertake the nursing of any cases of infectious disease under the arrangement made by the Council.

Hospital and Nursing Home Provision.

The Borough Council contributed to the cost of maintenance and treatment of two abnormal maternity cases admitted to the East Surrey Hospital on the advice of the Borough Obstetric Consultant. The Council were not required to make any contribution in respect of maternity patients admitted to other institutions during the year.

Home Help Scheme.

In the early part of the year the home help scheme for the supply of domestic assistance to cases coming strictly within the scope of the Council's maternity and child welfare arrangements was extended to make similar provision for other cases urgently in need of it. The latter were mainly cases of general illness, old age and infirmity, and for the most part required assistance for lengthy periods. To ensure that the available domestic help might be used to the best advantage, it was decided that the home helps employed by the Council should assist either general or maternity cases, as may be necessary.

On the whole, the scheme operated very satisfactorily, notwithstanding the extreme difficulty in engaging and retaining a sufficient number of capable whole-time and part-time domestic helpers. All eligible applicants were supplied with the assistance they required, and reported very favourably on the quality of the service given. Whole-time domestic help was provided for four maternity cases, and part-time help for eighteen maternity cases and twenty-three general cases. Although there was no selection of cases, only three applicants were unable to pay the full cost of the domestic help supplied to them.

Maternal Mortality.

One death was attributed to pregnancy and child-bearing. This was of a patient who was admitted to the East Surrey Hospital, where she died from post-abortion septicæmia. The cause of death was confirmed at a Coroner's inquest, following a post-mortem examination.

The maternal mortality rate for the year was, therefore, 1.70 per 1,000 total (i.e., live and still) births, which approximates to the average for recent years.

Births.

Particulars of live births recorded in the area during the year are as follows :—

	<i>Borough residents.</i>	<i>Non- residents.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Notified by doctors..	268	210	478
Notified by midwives	261	666	927
Notified by Registrar	10	3	13
	—	—	—
Total	539	879	1418
	—	—	—

One thousand, four hundred and five births, or 99.08 per cent. of the total, were officially notified, the remainder being reported to the Public Health Department by the local Registrar.

The nett live births accredited to the area by the Registrar-General were 569, of which 492 were legitimate and 77 illegitimate.

Still-births.

Still-births in the area during the year were notified as follows :

		<i>Borough residents.</i>	<i>Non- residents.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Notified by doctors..	..	9	3	12
Notified by midwives	..	8	15	23
Notified by Registrar	..	—	—	—
		—	—	—
Total	..	17	18	35
		—	—	—

The nett still-births assigned to the area by the Registrar-General were 16, of which twelve were of males and four of females. This is equivalent to a rate of 27.3 per 1,000 total births, which is somewhat below the average.

Infant Welfare Clinics.

Particulars of attendances at the Infant Welfare Clinics are summarised in Table IX. The numbers of children in attendance and of primary visits by children over the age of one year are somewhat higher than in 1944, while the numbers of attendances at all clinics show substantial increases.

Infant clinic facilities on a limited scale were extended to Earlswood in September, when arrangements were made for holding a weekly session in a private house in that district. This has been of value as a temporary measure, pending the erection of suitable clinic premises on a central site already reserved for that purpose.

Recent extensions of clinic services have inevitably encroached on the time otherwise available to the health visitors for the domiciliary supervision of children under school age. This was of little consequence during the war period, when many mothers were employed or were, for other reasons, not accessible to the health visitor when she called. Supervision in the home is no less important than regular attendance at the infant clinic, and it may be necessary to modify the existing arrangements, in order that domiciliary visiting may be maintained at a satisfactory level.

TABLE IX.

PARTICULARS OF ATTENDANCES AT INFANT WELFARE CLINICS
DURING THE YEAR 1945.

	<i>Health Centre.</i>	<i>South Park.</i>	<i>Merstham.</i>	<i>Earlswood.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Number of Sessions held ..	89	89	43	14	235
Average attendance per Session	37	36	31	27	35
Number of children who attended during the year and who, at the end of the year, were :—					
Under 1 year of age ..	132	65	41	25	263
Between the ages of 1 and 5 years	334	245	123	66	768
Total	466	310	164	91	1031
Number of children who attended for the first time during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were :—					
Under 1 year of age ..	181	88	56	18	343
1—2 years	35	18	7	5	65
2—3 „	16	13	3	8	40
3—4 „	14	7	1	3	25
4—5 „	3	—	—	1	4
Total	249	126	67	35	477
Total attendances by children :—					
Under 1 year	1848	1574	777	189	4388
1—5 years	1451	1642	548	189	3830
Total	3299	3216	1325	378	8218

Minor Ailments Clinics.

The conditions treated were as follows :—

				<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Attendances.</i>
Minor eye defects .. ..	..	..	..	21	60
Minor ear defects .. ..	..	..	..	1	2
Impetigo .. ..	..	..	..	2	6
Other skin diseases .. ..	..	..	..	19	74
Septic sores .. ..	..	..	..	2	3
Minor injuries .. ..	..	..	..	1	2
Miscellaneous .. ..	..	..	..	19	46
				—	—
Total ..				65	193
				—	—

Ophthalmic Clinic.

The following is a summary of the cases treated at the Ophthalmic Clinic during the year :—

Number of new cases referred for examination .. ..	..	..	9
Number for whom glasses prescribed .. ..	..	..	3
Number for whom glasses were obtained .. ..	..	..	3
Received other forms of treatment .. ..	..	..	5
Advised observation only .. ..	..	..	6
Number of old cases re-examined .. ..	..	..	5
Verification of glasses .. ..	..	..	4
Total attendances .. ..	..	..	21

Dental Clinics.

Dental treatment is provided for expectant mothers, nursing mothers and pre-school children who are in regular attendance at the various clinics, and who are specially referred to the Dental Surgeon by the doctor conducting the clinic.

The following is a summary of the work of the Dental Clinic for the year :—

Number of sessions devoted to inspection and treatment	38
„ „ expectant mothers treated.. ..	19
„ „ nursing „ „ ..	37
„ „ pre-school children „ ..	114
„ „ extractions :—	
Temporary teeth	52
Permanent teeth	136
	— 188
„ „ fillings :—	
Temporary teeth	48
Permanent teeth	69
	— 117
„ „ other operations	341
„ „ general anæsthetics for extraction ..	52
„ „ local „ „ „ ..	5
„ „ patients supplies with dentures ..	12
Dentures supplied—complete plates	14
—partial	9
Total attendances :—	
Mothers	197
Children	156
	— 353

Orthopædic Treatment.

One case of severe crippling deformity was referred to the orthopædic specialist at the Redhill County Hospital, who prescribed surgical boots, at an estimated cost of £4 4s. 0d. The Borough Council agreed to pay one-half of this amount.

Child Life Protection.

The arrangements in force locally for the care and supervision of foster children are fully described in the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1944.

No serious breach of the regulations relating to foster children was discovered during the year, nor was legal action necessary by the welfare authority for the removal of any child from unsuitable premises or from the care of unsatisfactory foster parents.

Several foster mothers were reprimanded for failure to submit formal notices within the prescribed periods, and for failure to provide and maintain in position fire-guards of suitable type. At one home in which a number of foster children are received it was necessary to insist on adequate staffing and on definite arrangements for regular medical supervision and treatment.

On the whole, the general standard of care in foster homes in the Borough is reasonably satisfactory, having due regard to existing conditions and to the very great difficulty in finding suitable persons who are able and willing to undertake the care of foster children. The inducement of guaranteed payments to approved foster mothers has met with little response, mainly because of the more attractive and better paid employment at present available to women in other directions.

The following particulars are taken from the Register of Foster-children :—

Number of foster-children on Register at the beginning of				
the year	..	..	..	.. 30
„ added to the Register during the year				.. 57
„ removed from the Register :—				
On reaching the age of nine years	..			1
„ leaving the district	..	..		11
„ returning to parents	..	..		32
„ death	..	..	..	—
				— 44
„ of foster-children on Register at the end of the				
year	..	..	..	.. 43
„ of approved foster-mothers in the district				.. 31
Visits to foster-children	..	..	..	.. 320

The Care of Premature Infants.

The recommendations made by the Ministry of Health with regard to the care of premature infants have been put into force, as far as is practicable under present conditions, to meet existing local needs, and have been brought to the notice of health visitors, district nursing associations and matrons of maternity homes in the area.

Birth notification cards have been amended to provide space for the weight at birth of infants weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less. Close liaison has been established with local maternity hospitals to ensure that the Welfare Authority is immediately informed when premature infants are discharged from hospital to their own homes. The health visitors pay particular attention to the home care and management of these infants and give advice with regard to the special measures and precautions that are necessary in such cases. Provision has been made for the supply of clothing, rubber hot water bottles and certain other items of equipment that may be required, and for regular medical supervision at the infant welfare clinics. Domestic assistance is available under the home help scheme to mothers who are unable to give proper attention to their household duties because of their pre-occupation with the care of premature infants.

Forty-five premature births were notified during the year; 30 of these took place in hospital, 14 in nursing homes and one in a private dwelling. Seven of the infants born in hospital and eight of those born in nursing homes did not survive the first month. These figures include births to women not normally resident in the district, and tend to demonstrate the value of hospital treatment in the reduction of neo-natal mortality amongst premature infants.

The Care of Illegitimate Children.

The problems arising from the wartime increase in the number and proportion of illegitimate births accredited to the area were discussed at some length in the Annual Report for 1944. Attention was drawn to the measures already adopted by the Borough Council for the care of unmarried mothers and their infants; these measures included the payment of an annual grant to the Reigate Ruri-Decanal Association for Moral Welfare and an agreement to pay one-half of the cost of maintenance of any unmarried mother and her child admitted to the Association's hostel on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health. With a view to discouraging the adoption of illegitimate infants for whom a reasonable standard of care could otherwise be provided, approval was given to a scheme of guaranteed payments to approved foster mothers and to priority of admission to the Council's Day Nurseries of illegitimate children whose mothers are in regular employment.

The Borough Council approved, in principle, the establishment of a hostel in conjunction with other autonomous maternity and child welfare authorities in the County, subject to satisfactory financial arrangements being agreed. This project had to be abandoned because of the difficulty in obtaining premises suitable for the purpose. As an alternative, it was decided to ascertain if certain Moral Welfare Associations in the County would be prepared to re-establish or extend the hostel accommodation under their control, provided that the interested autonomous welfare authorities would contribute to the cost on the basis of the anticipated needs of their respective districts. No concrete proposals on this aspect of the matter had been formulated by the end of the year.

Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939.

It is a requirement of Section 7 of the above-named Act that private individuals, other than parents or guardians, who participate in the arrangements for the placing of children for adoption shall give written notice to the Welfare Authority of the area in which the child is to be placed.

Notices were given under this Section in respect of five children born in a local nursing home. In every case the Child Protection Visitor and the Chief Sanitary Inspector reported that the prospective adopters were fit and proper persons to have the care of young children and that the premises in which the children were to be received were, in all respects, satisfactory. The children, after placing with the prospective adopters, were kept under regular supervision by the health visiting staff.

The Child Protection Visitor also investigated and reported upon the home circumstances of several persons with whom infants were to be placed by one or other of the registered Adoption Societies.

Domiciliary Visits.

The number of visits paid by the Health Visitors during the year are set out in the following summary :—

Expectant mothers :—				
Primary Visits	..	..	..	233
Subsequent Visits	..	..	..	124
			—	357
Infants under 12 months :—				
Primary Visits	521
Subsequent Visits	913
			—	1,434

Children aged 1—5 years :—

Total visits	2,933
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Foster-children :—

Total visits	320
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Visits to cases of infectious disease :—

Puerperal Pyrexia	—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum		—	
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	10
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	5
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	20
Whooping Cough		..	..	..	32
Measles	..	} in infants under 5 years of age		..	269
Mumps	..			..	9
Chicken Pox				..	11
Scabies	..			..	66
				—	422

Visits to :—

Still births	13
Infant deaths	11
				—	24

Other visits	944
--------------	----	----	----	----	-----

Grand Total	..	6,434
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The total number of visits is appreciably smaller than in 1944, due partly to temporary depletion of the health visiting staff and partly to additional clinic sessions and extraneous duties on which the health visitors have been engaged.

War-time Nurseries.

The war-time nurseries at Reigate and South Park have accommodation for a maximum of 105 children under the age of five years. Admission is restricted to infants whose mothers are in regular employment and for whom suitable alternative arrangements cannot easily be made, though casual vacancies are occasionally filled by children whose physical condition or home environment indicates the need for nursery care.

Admission is therefore selective to a very limited extent, and the beneficial effects of skilled care and ordered routine are consequently less pronounced than they would be if the nurseries were reserved exclusively for cases of urgent physical need. It is to such cases that special attention will be directed in planning the local nursery service of the future.

All applicants were medically examined before admission or re-admission to the nurseries, the total number of examinations made for this purpose being 114. The physical standard of the children examined was, on the whole, satisfactory, and it was rarely necessary to refuse or postpone admission for medical reasons.

Attendances at the nurseries were somewhat lower than in 1944, the average daily attendance being 44.0 at Redhill and 21.7 at South Park. The incidence of infectious and contagious disease was comparatively low, having regard to the unusual degree of susceptibility of the children in attendance.

Both nurseries are affiliated to the National Society of Children's Nurseries and are approved as training centres for Parts I and II of the Nursery Nurses' Diploma. Three candidates who had been trained at the nurseries were entered for examination during the year and were awarded the Diploma. The matron and her deputy, who prepared the candidates for the examination, are to be congratulated on this excellent result.

BOROUGH OF REIGATE.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the Year 1945.

Public Health Department,

Town Hall, REIGATE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I submit herewith my twelfth Annual Report on the work of the Sanitary Inspectors, which has continued to be concentrated chiefly on meat and food inspection and the supervision of building repair work under licence and otherwise.

In the latter half of the year, following the cessation of hostilities, the Housing Committee was faced with the task of dealing with hundreds of applications for housing accommodation from persons living under overcrowded and/or insanitary conditions. In order to assist the Committee to allocate available vacant accommodation to the most urgent cases, and to deal as far as possible with the unsatisfactory conditions which inspection of the applicants' existing accommodation would reveal, it was necessary to ensure complete co-operation with the newly-formed Housing Department, which was set up under the Valuation and Housing Officer. This co-operation was achieved by all suitable cases being referred to me for inspection and report, and by my attendance at meetings of the Housing (Tenants' Selection) Sub-Committee. Up to the end of 1945, some 119 cases were reported upon. After a short experience it became obvious that if applicants

were to be dealt with fairly and impartially, every case would have to be reconsidered methodically and in detail. The Housing Officer, therefore, in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health and myself, formulated a points allocation scheme at the end of the year, which takes into account not only the family circumstances of the applicant, his employment and pre-war residence, but certain health factors and his housing need based on the conditions under which he is at present living. The scheme was adopted by the Housing Committee and is in operation at the time of writing.

I wish to record the willing co-operation and assistance which my colleagues have given me, and to express my thanks to Dr. Bingham, Medical Officer of Health, for his continued support and advice.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. JANES,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Infectious Diseases, Disinfection and Disinfestation.

During the year 136 visits of enquiry were made in connection with infectious disease. One hundred and ten library books were disinfected by formalin vapour and returned to the libraries from which they had been borrowed.

The Table on page 52 shows in detail the work carried out by the Disinfecting Officer in connection with disinfection and disinfestation.

The regular disinfection of bedding used in five Agricultural Labour camps in this part of Surrey was carried out during the summer and autumn, at the request of the Surrey War Agricultural Executive Committee.

During the year 13 houses were disinfested owing to the presence of bed bugs, and of these one house was owned by the Corporation. Two houses, including one Corporation house, infested by fleas and four premises, including the kitchen of a hospital, infested by cockroaches, were also dealt with.

DETAIL OF WORK CARRIED OUT AT CORPORATION STEAM DISINFECTING STATION

1945	BEDDING.												CLOTHING, etc.				Total. 1945.	Total. 1944.	Verminous Persons Cleansed.		Infected Rooms.	Ambulances and Hackney Carriages.	School Dormitories.	Hospital Wards.	Police Cells.
					FURNISHINGS, etc.								1945	1944											
	Beds.	Mattresses, etc.	Bolsters and Pillows.	Sheets, etc.	Carpets, Rugs, etc.	Curtains, Towels, etc.	Clothing.	Other Articles.																	
REIGATE BOROUGH	6	28	53	68	5	11	43	20	234	233	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Notifiable Diseases	3	12	34	27	-	17	4	8	105	134	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Other Diseases ..	2	7	2	59	-	4	81	4	159	275	47	78	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Vermine—Scabies	5	65	91	152	8	11	29	14	375	131	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
" —Bugs ..	1	2	9	29	1	13	46	20	121	-	1	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
" —Lice ..	-	2	1	5	-	-	-	-	8	849	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
" —Fleas ..	-	2	3	77	19	8	1	2	122	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
" —Other ..	2	10	1154	3261	6	14	10	133	5093	7248	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Miscellaneous ..	7	508	72	594	-	-	-	-	724	2326	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Evacuation Stores	1	57	72	594	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
TOTAL ..	27	691	1419	4272	39	78	214	201	6941	11207	48	78	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
MILITARY UNITS																									
Vermine—Scabies	-	1	-	4	-	-	14	4	23	112	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
" —Lice ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Miscellaneous ..	-	1	3	40	-	-	-	-	44	3960	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
TOTAL ..	-	2	3	44	-	-	14	4	67	4072	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
DORKING AND HORLEY R.D.C.																									
Infectious Diseases	-	9	9	13	-	3	7	1	42	76	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Vermine ..	3	2	16	36	-	1	11	4	73	146	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Miscellaneous ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	488	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
TOTAL ..	4	11	25	49	-	4	18	5	116	710	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
GODSTONE R.D.C.																									
Infectious Diseases	-	4	5	12	-	-	58	9	88	103	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Vermine ..	1	17	20	41	-	-	62	39	180	275	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Miscellaneous ..	-	69	52	17	1	2	5	7	153	689	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
TOTAL ..	1	90	77	70	1	2	125	55	421	1067	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

(a) Meat.

Inspection of meat at the Government-controlled slaughter-houses continued to be carried out under unsatisfactory conditions similar to those referred to in previous reports, in spite of further representations to the Ministry of Food. These conditions must inevitably continue until a properly equipped central abattoir can be erected or other more suitable premises can be adapted for the purpose.

The number of animals slaughtered has not varied appreciably in the last year or two, with the exception that the number of sheep slaughtered in 1945 is approximately half those dealt with in 1943, but the percentage of carcasses found to be diseased has undoubtedly increased ; for example, the percentage of cows found to be affected with tuberculosis was 42.12 per cent. in 1943, 46 per cent. in 1944 and 54.4 per cent. in 1945. The number of tuberculous cattle, excluding cows, has also risen from 10.81 per cent. in 1943 to 15.8 per cent. in 1945. The percentage of the number affected with diseases other than tuberculosis was also higher in 1945 than in either 1943 or 1944, the percentage in cows rising from 17.02 per cent. in 1943 to 24 per cent. in 1945, and cattle, excluding cows, from 7.73 per cent. in 1943 to 20.6 per cent. in 1945.

The results of inspection are given in detail in Tables I and II.

TABLE I.
CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1945.

	<i>Cattle, excluding Cows.</i>	<i>Cows.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>	<i>Bulls (included in Cattle Col.)</i>
Number killed	1504	1420	3770	3022	1085	119
Number inspected ..	1504	1420	3770	3022	1085	119
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :— Whole carcasses con- demned	4	17	3	13	51	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	305	325	18	203	532	12
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ..	20.6%	24.00%	.55%	7.1%	53.7%	10.9%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY— Whole carcasses con- demned	10	76	6	—	1	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	228	697	16	—	44	29
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	15.8%	54.4%	.58%	—	4.1%	24.3%

The total weight of carcasses and offals condemned was 46 tons 6 cwts. 23 lbs., which is a few hundredweights less than in the previous year.

The number of cows slaughtered included nine which were dealt with by the Divisional Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, under the Tuberculosis Order, and which were sent to the slaughterhouse with a view to salvaging such parts of the carcasses, etc., as were found on post-mortem inspection to be fit for human consumption. This was possible only in four cases, five carcasses being wholly unfit.

Five calves found on inspection to be affected with generalised tuberculosis were referred to the Divisional Veterinary Inspector with a view to tracing the source of infection. Information received from the Inspector showed that in three cases the investigations were successful, the mothers of the calves being slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order and found to be affected with advanced tuberculosis.

TABLE NO.

DESCRIPTION	Number Slaughtered	Tuber- culosis.		Other Conditions.													Totals				
		Generalised	Localised	Swine Fever	Fevered	Dropsy and Emaciation	Pyæmia	Injury	Septicæmia	Nephritis	Distomatosis and Cirrhosis	Parasitic	Abscesses	Pleurisy	Pneumonia	Actinomycosis		Cavernous Angioma	Miscellaneous		
BOVINES—	2924	86	.. 59	..	3	4	5	20	6	3	..	..	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	12	107
Whole Carcases and Offal	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	104
Part Carcase	401	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	429
Heads and Tongues	703	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	5	..	..	..	..	..	733
Lungs	210	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	126	..	..	..	..	..	..	861
Livers and Part Livers	43	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	56
Hearts..	81	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	98
Skirts	112	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	143
Spleens..	28	..	..	..	..	..	..	24	..	19	9	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Kidneys	72	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	117
Mesentery and Intestines
CALVES—	3770	6	..	..	1	..	..	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	9	
Whole Carcases and Offal	5
Part Carcases..	18	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Lungs	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
Livers
SHEEP—	3022	..	..	..	1	9	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	3	13	
Whole Carcases and Offal	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Part Carcases	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	2	..	..	..	3	53	
Lungs	43	6	6	..	..	..	..	2	29	
Livers	141	35	3	3	..	..	..	..	4	183	
PIGS—	1085	1	..	1	37	1	4	15	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	52	
Whole Carcases and Offal	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	8	34	
Part Carcases	38	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Heads and Tongues	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	247	..	..	..	52	321	
Lungs	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	53	76	
Livers	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	439	447	
Mesentery and Intestines	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL ..	10801	93	1830	1	42	16	9	43	13	27	559	110	211	6	254	25	91	713	4043	..	

(b) Other Foods

The following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and disposed of accordingly.

Dried Fruit	..	..	..	1 ton 1 qtr. 11 lbs.
Tinned Meat	..	..	..	1 ton 14 cwts. 3 qtrs. 27 lbs
Sweets and Chocolate	..	..	..	2 cwts. 2 lbs.
Bacon	..	..	..	1 cwt. 3 qtrs. 11 lbs.
Meat and Offal	..	..	..	12 cwts. 9 lbs.
Cereals	..	..	..	5 tons 1 cwt. 2 qtrs. 27 lbs.
Fresh Fish	..	..	..	12 cwts. 2 qtrs. 21 lbs.
Shrimps	..	..	..	2½ gallons
Tinned Milk	..	..	..	4,754 tins
Tinned Beans	..	..	..	344 tins
Tinned Fish	..	..	..	448 tins
Flour	..	..	..	10 cwts. 2 qtrs. 21 lbs.
Butter, Margarine, etc.	..	..	..	6 cwts. 1 qtr. 21 lbs.
Milk Powder	..	..	..	1 qtr. 16 lbs.
Dried Egg	..	..	..	3 qtrs. 3 lbs.
Eggs	..	..	..	42 dozen
Sugar and Preserves	..	..	..	4 cwts. 32 lbs.
Onions	..	..	..	4 cwts. 2 qtrs.
Carrots	..	..	..	5 tons 1 cwt.
Biscuits	..	..	..	2 cwts. 16 lbs.
Cheese	..	..	..	9 lbs.
Gelatine	..	..	..	11 lbs.
Tea	..	..	..	8 lbs.
Pigeons	..	..	..	6

Miscellaneous :—

Tinned foods, etc.	..	..	321 tins
Packet foods, etc.	..	..	1,781 packets

This work involved 339 visits.

Most of the condemned food was utilised for the feeding of animals ; no edible food was wasted. In this connection there was the closest co-operation with the Food Executive Officer, the Divisional Food Salvage Officer of the Ministry of Food and local members of the food distributive trades.

Three pigeon carcasses (dressed), one of which had been sold and two exposed for sale in a fishmonger's shop were found to be unfit for human consumption and seized in accordance with Section 10 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938. Legal proceedings were instituted against the vendor and a conviction was secured in respect of each summons, the total fines and costs amounting to £8 1s. 0d.

The Register of food premises now includes the following :—

Grocers, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	95
Butchers, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Fishmongers and Fish-fryers	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Confectioners (including 24 bakehouses)	..	..	..	..	..	..	88
Restaurants, Cafés, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	37

In addition there are two shops in which horseflesh and other meat is sold by retail for animal feeding purposes.

As a result of certain unsatisfactory conditions arising from this type of business, the opportunity was taken to try to secure local legislation by inserting a suitable clause in the Reigate Corporation Bill, which was placed before Parliament in 1945. This Bill was passed into law and the Corporation now has power to control the sale of horseflesh, etc., for animal feeding purposes, by registration, bye-laws, etc.

One hundred and seventy-eight inspections were made during the year.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Renewals of annual licences were granted to 17 slaughter-men.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

The entries in the registers required to be kept in accordance with the Order may be summarised as follows :—

Cowkeepers	19
Dairymen and Retail Purveyors, with premises in the Borough	7
Retail Purveyors, with premises outside the Borough ..	4
Retail Purveyors—bottled milk only sold in general shops	5
Cowsheds	20
Dairies (including 8 milkshops)	17

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

A detailed report on 103 samples of milk taken in 1945 is given in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

Tuberculosis Order, 1938.

During 1945, eight cows from herds in the Borough were dealt with by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Diseases of Animals Acts—Disinfection.

Disinfection of vehicles continued to be carried out at the Redhill Market each Monday during the year, when 172 vehicles were dealt with.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938—Sampling.

(E. Hinks, Esq., M.B.E., B.Sc., F.I.C., Public Analyst).

Details of the samples taken and submitted to the Public Analyst during 1945 are given in the following Table :—

FOODSTUFFS.	SAMPLES TAKEN.				Total	Genuine	Adulterated
	First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter			
Milk	10	26	2	4	42*	24	18
Butter	2	—	1	—	3	3	—
Margarine	2	—	—	—	2	2	—
Lard	2	—	1	—	3	3	—
Fish Paste	2	—	1	—	3	3	—
Flavouring	2	—	—	2	4	4	—
Sauce (Worcester)	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Pork Sausage	4	—	—	—	4	4	—
Ground Ginger	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Black Pepper	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Stuffing ("Sagion")	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Vinegar	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Mustard	1	—	—	2	3	2	1
Tea	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Gelatine (Sheet)	1	—	—	1	2	2	—
Strawberry Jam	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Raspberry Jam	1	1	—	—	2	2	—
Sardine & Fish Galan- tine	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Lemon Essence	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Custard Powder	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Junket Rennett	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Beer	—	—	3	—	3	3	—
Saccharin Tablets	—	—	1	—	1	1	—
Liver Sausage	—	—	1	—	1	1	—
Lunch Sausage	—	—	1	1	2	2	—
Strawberry and Plum Jam	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
Coffee	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Semolina	1	—	—	1	2	2	—
Baking Powder	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Epsom Salts.. .. .	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Lung Tonic (Owbridge)	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Golden Raising Powder	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Balsam of Aniseed	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Cake Flour	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Mincemeat	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Date Pudding	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Glycerin	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Gin	—	—	—	2	2	2	—
Friars Balsam	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Evaporated Milk	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Condensed Milk	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
"Bev" Coffee Essence with Chicory	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Beef Sausage	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Total ..	40	27	12	27	106	84	22

* includes 10 "Appeal to Cow" samples.

A sample of strawberry jam labelled "Full fruit standard," was reported by the Public Analyst to be deficient in strawberry fruit to the extent of 10 per cent., thus infringing the standard prescribed by the Food Standards (Preserves) Order, 1944. As it was felt that legal proceedings might not succeed in this particular case, the vendor was cautioned.

A sample of vinegar was unfavourably reported upon as containing one per cent of added salt. The matter was taken up with the manufacturers, who explained that salt, especially during war conditions, was used primarily to inhibit the development of acetic acid organisms and was used with the sanction of the Ministry of Food.

The Public Analyst reported that a sample of mustard was lacking in allyl isothiocyanate, contrary to the provisions of the Food Standards (Mustard) No. 2 Order, 1944. This case was dealt with by issuing a caution to the vendor, who had neglected to display a notice in his shop to the effect that the mustard, sold loose, was sold as "pickling mustard".

A sample of strawberry and plum jam, manufactured locally and labelled "Fresh fruit standard," was found to contain 30 parts per million of sulphur dioxide, contrary to the Food Standards (Preserves) Order, 1944. The manufacturer was obviously unaware of the legislation and the case was dealt with by a caution.

A sample of milk was found to be 4 per cent. deficient in milk fat. The milk was bottled at a large dairy outside the Borough, and on investigation it was found that on the particular day of bottling, a milk pump had become out of order for a very short time and was undoubtedly the cause of the deficiency.

Seventeen samples of milk reported on as being adulterated formed the subject of legal proceedings which were taken against a producer in an adjoining rural district, who was suspected of sending in watered milk to a local dairy. Samples taken informally at the dairy confirmed the suspicion, and it was then decided to take formal samples at the place of production whilst in the possession of the producer and before being handed over to the Milk Marketing Board. Of ten samples, four were found to contain 14, 18, 14 and 12 per cent. added water respectively. These samples were followed up by "Appeal to Cow" samples, which were found to be normal so far as the freezing point was concerned, but which, in a few cases, were deficient in milk fat. The producer was fined £6 and £6 costs.

Factories Act, 1937.

During 1945, 58 inspections were made. One list of outworkers was received, affecting one person.

Complaints.

The following is a summary of the complaints received during the year.

Insanitary condition of premises	..	..	..	75
House drainage	..	..	..	24
Non-removal of house refuse	..	..	..	73
Non-removal of trade refuse	..	..	..	6
Overcrowding	..	..	..	12
Rats or mice	..	..	..	313
Smells emanating from sewers and street gullies			..	1
Vermin	..	..	..	14
Wasps' Nests	..	..	..	5
Unsound food	..	..	..	12
Cesspools overflowing	..	..	..	7
Defective dustbin	..	..	..	4
Kitchen waste street bins	..	..	..	12
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	71

Notices Issued and Action taken.

The following Table is a statement of the notices dealt with during the year :—

Preliminary—

Outstanding on 1st January, 1945	..	..	90
Issued during year	..	..	213
Complied with during year	..	..	206
Statutory action necessary	..	..	10
Outstanding on 31st December, 1945	..	..	87

Statutory—

Outstanding on 1st January, 1945	..	..	3
Issued during year	..	..	10
Complied with during year	..	..	9
Outstanding on 31st December, 1945	..	..	4

Nuisances Abated, Defects Remedied, etc.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year in consequence of the service of notices calling for the abatement of nuisances, or the remedying of defects found during housing inspections. The list also includes drainage works supervised following notice by builders of intention to reconstruct or repair existing drains.

Drains examined and tested (primary inspections only)	—
Drains relaid	40
New lengths drain laid	6
Blocked drains cleared	47
Interceptors fixed	4
New soil and vent pipes fixed	3
Soil and vent pipes renewed	7
Drain ventilation improved	—
New W.C.'s installed	1
W.C. apparatus renewed or repaired	20
W.C. flushing cisterns ditto	12
Hand-flushed W.C.'s provided with flushing apparatus	1
Cesspools provided or enlarged	1
„ abolished	—
Existing house drains connected to public sewer	—
Cesspools cleansed	3
New lavatory basins installed	1
Lavatory basins renewed	1
Sinks renewed or repaired	6
Waste pipes trapped or repaired	10
Sink gully dishings repaired	1
Pail closets abolished	—
Urinals reconstructed	1
Urinals cleansed	2
Sanitary dustbins provided	29
Leaky roofs repaired	30
Eaves gutters and stack pipes repaired	22

Backyards paved or repaired	..	..	..	5
Dampness remedied	..	..	..	—
Damp-proof courses provided	..	..	..	4
Pointing or otherwise weatherproofing of brickwork (houses)	..	..	..	5
Ventilation and light of rooms improved	..	..	..	—
„ „ „ „ W.C. chambers improved	..	..	..	1
Water supply pipes repaired	..	..	..	5
Sub-floor ventilation improved	..	..	..	3
External paintwork of houses renewed	..	..	..	—
Internal paintwork of rooms renewed	..	..	..	—
Rooms cleansed	..	..	..	29
Ceilings cleansed	..	..	..	19
W.C. chambers cleansed	..	..	..	2
Cellars cleansed	..	..	..	2
Floors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	33
Plastering of walls and ceilings repaired	..	..	..	22
Window frames or sashcords repaired	..	..	..	12
Doors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	4
Fireplaces renewed or repaired	..	..	..	10
Coppers renewed or repaired	..	..	..	3
Washing accommodation provided	..	..	..	—
Food-stores provided	..	..	..	—
Overcrowding suppressed	..	..	..	6
Manure receptacles renewed or repaired	..	..	..	4
Accumulations removed	..	..	..	14
Animals or poultry improperly kept	..	..	..	3
Other nuisances abated	..	..	..	10

One hundred and thirty-one premises were visited on the application of builders for certificates to enable them to obtain timber for floor and other repairs. One hundred and thirteen certificates, involving 131 premises, were issued for transmission to the Ministry of Supply (Timber Control). The certificates stated that the repairs were necessary in the interests of public health, and that the amount of timber for which application was

made was the minimum required for the repairs specified. As the defects to be remedied were, in most cases, caused by dry rot the work was, whenever possible, carried out under close supervision, so that proper remedial measures could be put in hand for removing infected material and preventing the new timber from becoming infected.

In connection with the Ministry of Health Scheme for the repair of houses as outlined in Circular 2871, dated 11th October, 1943, 14 Certificates of Essentiality were issued during 1945, authorising repair work of an estimated value of £3,282.

As from 5th February, 1945, all licences for building work costing between £10 and £100 have been issued on behalf of the Ministry of Works either by the Borough Surveyor or the Chief Sanitary Inspector. The latter has dealt with all applications involving repair and maintenance of dwelling-houses and certain business premises not affected by war damage. In order to facilitate administration and save time, the practice has been adopted of meeting applicants or their builders on the properties concerned before formal application is made, and agreeing a specification of works of repair which are considered essential and the minimum necessary for the safeguarding of health. This arrangement has worked well; there has been the closest co-operation between the two departments concerned, and the result has been that the limited amount of labour available has been used to the best advantage. During 1945, 265 licences were granted, in respect of 214 dwelling-houses and 51 food shops and other business premises, involving works estimated to cost £11,366. Five owners were informed that their proposals could not be regarded as essential work.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. Infestation Order, 1943.

The results of the year's work under this heading are shown in the appended tables. Table I shows that 277 premises were visited, as compared with 267 in 1944. Of these 76 were found not to be infested. All the infestations found and dealt with were of a minor character. Table II shows that 179 premises were cleared of rats and mice by or under the supervision of the Assistant Rat Officer, as compared with 199 in 1944. In addition, the site of the major infestation reported in 1943, namely, the Council's Disposal Works, received a thorough maintenance treatment in January, 1945, resulting in an estimated kill of 400 rats. A systematic test of the public sewers was made in August to ascertain

the extent of rat infestation, and of 192 manholes which were tested, only 13 in widely scattered parts of the Borough were found to be rat infested. The test was followed by pre-baiting 74 sewer manholes in the districts affected, followed by the laying of 328 ozs. poison bait (sausage rusk and Zinc Phosphide) in the 36 manholes which had been used by rats for feeding purposes. The take of poison bait gave an estimated kill of 290 rats. Post-baiting revealed "no takes" in every case.

The method of pre-baiting and poisoning was responsible during the year for success in clearing 132 premises of rats and 15 of mice. The estimated number of rats killed by Zinc Phosphide and arsenic, using the Ministry of Food formula, was 1,139. This figure is in addition to the numbers given above as destroyed at the Disposal Works and in the public sewers. Thirty-three premises were cleared by the occupiers themselves, either by poisoning or trapping, as against 38 in 1944. Other methods used by the Assistant Rat Officer, e.g. traps, dogs, ferrets or gas, were responsible for the clearance of 32 premises, showing a further decrease in their use in favour of pre-baiting and poisoning; these methods are known to have accounted for at least 449 rats. Table III shows that 101 premises still remained to be dealt with at the end of the year.

TABLE I.
COMPLAINTS RECEIVED AND INVESTIGATED DURING 1945.

<i>Type of Premises or Land.</i>	<i>Found to be infested by</i>		<i>Not Infested.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	<i>Rats.</i>	<i>Mice.</i>		
(1) Dwelling houses ..	141	11	69	221
(2) Food Stores, Shops, etc.	13	4	2	19
(3) Business Premises (other than those included in (2) above)	22	4	4	30
(4) Agricultural	6	—	1	7
TOTAL ..	182	19	76	277

TABLE II.
NUMBER OF INFESTATIONS CLEARED DURING 1945 BY
(a) ASSISTANT RAT OFFICER. (b) OCCUPIER.

TYPE OF PREMISES.	METHODS USED.							TOTAL.		
	Pre-baiting and poison. (a)	Poison.		Traps.		Dogs and ferrets. (a)	Dogs, ferrets and gas. (a)	(a) A.R.O.		(b) Occ.
		(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)			Rats.	Mice.	
1. Dwelling-houses ..	(i) Rats..	A.R.O. 107	A.R.O. —	Occ. 25	A.R.O. 2	Occ. —	A.R.O. 21	5	7	25
	(ii) Mice..	7	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Food Premises ..	(i) Rats..	6	—	1	—	1	2	—	3	2
	(ii) Mice..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Other Business Premises (i) Rats..		17	—	—	—	—	—	18	5	—
	(ii) Mice..	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Agricultural ..	Rats..	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
	TOTAL ..	147	—	32	2	1	23	164*	15†	27
										6

* Does not include work of destruction at Corporation premises, 2 Institutions under contract.
Includes 19 dwelling-houses and 3 Business premises which became re-infested and were again cleared.
† Includes 1 dwelling-house which became re-infested and was cleared again.

TABLE III.

INFESTATIONS NOT CLEARED AND OUTSTANDING AT 31st Dec., 1945.

<i>Type of Premises.</i>	<i>Infested by</i>	
	<i>Rats.</i>	<i>Mice.</i>
(1) Dwelling-houses	75	1
(2) Food Stores, Shops, etc.	11	1
(3) Business Premises (other than those included in (2) above)	7	—
(4) Agricultural	6	—
TOTAL ..	99	2

Three meetings of the Surrey No. 3 Workable Area Committee were held during the year, and were well attended by representatives from the Ministry of Food, the Surrey County Council, Caterham and Warlingham U.D.C., Dorking U.D.C., Godstone R.D.C., Leatherhead U.D.C., Reigate Borough Council and the Surrey War Agricultural Executive Committee.

Public Mortuary.

During the year bodies were deposited at the Reigate Mortuary for the following purposes :—

Post-mortem examination	..	38
Inquest	.. .. .	1
Convenience	.. .. .	3

Legal Proceedings.

<i>Nature of Offence.</i>	<i>Date of Information.</i>	<i>Date of Hearing.</i>	<i>Result.</i>
(1) Selling Milk with 14%, 18% 14% and 12% added water. (Section 24, Food and Drugs Act, 1938).	11.5.45	21.5.45	Fined £6 and £6 costs.
(2) Selling three pigeon carcasses in a decomposed condition.	8.10.45	18.10.45	Fined £4 and £4 1s. costs.

